

OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

MAY
2025

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Palm Sunday pancake brunch was a great time. Thanks to all who helped make this happen!



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Sunday Worship Times
9:00 AM Melo Worship
9:30 AM Sunday School at OSL
10:00 AM Sunday School at Melo
10:15 AM OSL Coffee Fellowship
10:45 AM OSL Worship

Television
Live on Garden Valley Channel 34
Monday at 3:30 pm on Sjoberg's
Channel 13

Online
www.oursaviors-melo.org
Search OSL Warren on YouTube
OSL Facebook

From the Pastor's Desk

"I know that my Redeemer lives; what comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my everlasting Head."

A Blessed Eastertide to all! In this time, we celebrate Jesus' victory over the grave. We could celebrate this every day in the course of the year if we wanted to (and, really, this is what we do when we gather for worship on Sundays). Still, there is something special about having a season to dwell in resurrection hope so that it can land afresh on our spirits.

It is especially great to do when signs of resurrection are all around us. When I met with the OSL council the other day, I asked them what resurrection signs they are noticing. Some pointed to the popping up of plants, from mushrooms to tulips. Others pointed at our WAO seniors about to graduate and the newness this transition brings. Another noted the restoration of relationship with a family member, and another looked ahead excitedly to the birth of a grandchild. Still another noted that resurrection from the dead feels more real and hopeful this year than it has in the past. As I write this, there is rain falling outside, which means that we can anticipate even more signs of resurrection appearing. All around us, life is springing up from death. It is a holy and marvelous thing.

My hope is that each of us can find signs of resurrection appearing around us, whether it's in the natural world, in our relationships with God and others, or in our own minds, bodies, and spirits. May the season fall like rain on us and our world, bringing forth new life everywhere it touches.

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Amber Kalina



PS: April 23rd was Office Administrator Day. Let's thank Shelly for all her hard work in these first few months of working for OSL and Melo. Thanks, Shelly!



April Ministry Highlights!



OSL & Melo Youth + Friends + Chaperones attended the Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack Event in Grand Forks on April 11th. They helped pack 326,592 meals! To learn more about Feed My Starving Children go to FMSC.org



OSL Sunday School Easter Program April 13th on Palm Sunday. Bells played by Ashley, Bobbi & Kaitlin accompanied one song on bells.



Taylin & Matthew were the readers for the Easter Program.



Lambs & Lions

May Sunday School

May 4 – Class

May 11 – Last Day of Sunday School—Kids Sing



Katie Benson preparing the Sunday School kids for their Easter Program held on Palm Sunday, April 13th.



Acolyte Schedule

May 4th - Sophia Wurtzel & Kenley Marquis

May 11th - Emma Dahlman

May 18th - Macy Boe & Ava Nybladh

May 25th - Camdyn Carlson & Rielly Clark

First Communion Sunday

May 4th!

Taylin Johnson will receive first communion at OSL
Annabella Seaverson, Owen Wittman, & Taylor Knoll will receive first communion at Melo



Easter Sunday kid's sermon at Melo with Pastor Amber and special music performed by Pastor Amber and her sister Abby

Ministry on the Horizon

HOSTED BY OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN OF WARREN AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS



COMMUNITY SPRING FESTIVAL

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF COMMUNITY AND FUN FOR ALL AGES! CHILDREN MUST BE ACCCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT* LIVE MUSIC PROVIDED BY "THE WOODPICKS". CARNIVAL GAMES AND PRIZES. TASTY SNACKS. BOUNCE HOUSE. AND MORE! FOR FREE!

MAY 4TH, 2PM-4PM

WARREN REC CENTER

A FREEWILL OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE EVENT, FOR ANY WHO FEEL INCLINED TO DONATE. THE PROCEEDS WILL GO TO SUPPORT NORTH STAR MANOR IN PURCHASING A NEW VAN FOR TRANSPORTING RESIDENTS.



VBS at OSL
August 4-7th
5:45-8:15 PM
August 7th—
Picnic & Program
Starting at
6:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE



**Monday Morning
10:00 AM Bible
Study at OSL
May
5th & 19th**

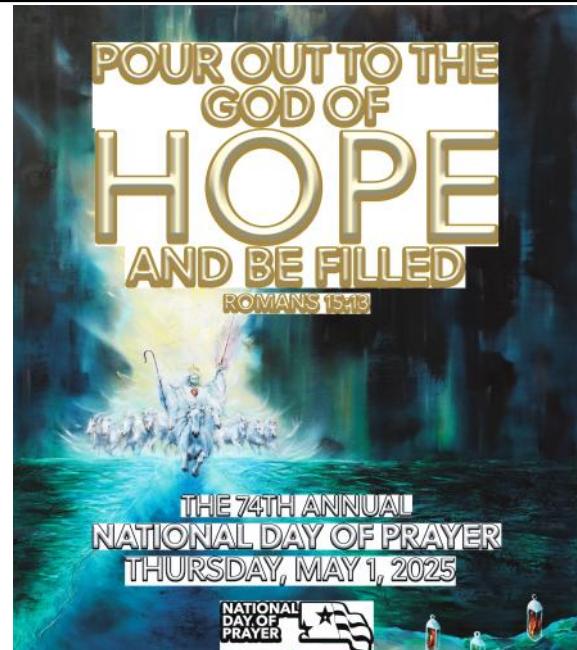
NORTH STAR MANOR

PANCAKE FEED FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY MAY 4
10:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
FREE-WILL DONATION

Warren Senior Center
110 W Johnson Ave,
Warren, MN 56762

OSL & Melo Faith Connection



May 1st, National Day of Prayer at 12 noon at the Marshall County Area Veteran's Memorial Park (on the grounds of the Marshall Co. Courthouse). Sponsored by the Warren Ministerial Association. In case of inclement weather: Basement of the courthouse.



Lydia-Phoebe
Circle
Meets on May 14th
2:00 PM at North Star
Community Room



YOUTH EVENT!!! Bonfire & Game Night

June 5th at 8:30 PM

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Pastor Amber gone April 30th through May 3rd for continuing education	1 Noon National Day of Prayer Event	2	3
4 First Communion 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL S.S. 10:00 AM Melo S.S. 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship Community Spring Festival 2-4 pm	5 10:00 AM Bible Study OSL Library 6:00 PM Ed Committee 7:00 PM Youth Board	6	7 5:45-7PM-7th/8th Gr. Confirmation -Final Class 7:00 PM Choir at OSL 7:45 PM Bells	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL SS 10:00 AM Melo SS 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship	12 3:00 PM W& E meeting Pastor Amber gone 12th-14th for continuing education	13	14 2:00 PM Lydia-Phoebe Circle at North Star Manor 7:00 PM Choir at OSL 7:45 PM Bells	15	16	17
18 Senior Sunday 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship	19 10:00 AM Bible Study OSL Library 7:00 PM OSL Council	20	21 7:00 PM Choir at OSL 7:45 PM Bells	22	23	24
25 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship	26 Memorial Day Office Closed Pastor Amber gone 26th-29th on vacation. Then gone to NWMN Synod Assembly on the 30th through June 1st.	27	28	29	30	31

May Celebrations

Happy Birthday!!!!

2 - Rielly Clark
Tim Howard
3 - Pat Williams
4 - Kaley Boe
Emily Johnson
5 - Destiny Bolton
Sydney Bring
Kyle Kleinvachter
Wayne Spidahl
6 - Caylee Bolton
Leanne Novacek
7 - Blake Owens
9 - June Vongroven
10 - Gail Knutson
Donna Gallagher
11 - Jaime Woinarowicz
14 - Gabby Hamrick
15 - Cathy Borud
Alec Nybladh
Madeline Hamrick
16 - Solvi Barbosa
17 - Ally Linder
Jodi Tescher
18 - Betty DuBore

19 - Tracy Anderson
Brooklyn Porter
20 - Bobbi Mischel
22 - Cameron DuBore
Maison Carlson
23 - Dawson Kostrzewski
24 - Clarice Demeyere
Matt Vongroven
25 - Jason Clark
27 - Tammy Duckstad
31 - Matthew Klassy Jr
Fredryce Sundby



5- Cathy & Nathan Borud
11- Ben & Kristen Duckstad
24- Mara & Travis Hanel
26- Jim & Tammy Duckstad
29- Mike & Hollie Cheney



Have we missed your big day?
Please let the office know if
you haven't seen your
birthday/anniversary on our
list so we can add and
celebrate with you!

May Servants

OSL Lector:

May 4 - Barbosas
May 11 - Camdyn Carlson
May 18 - Class of 2025
May 25 - Peder Larson

OSL Usher:

May 4- Barbosas
May 11-Dustin Marquis & Sid Carlson
May 18- Class of 2025
May 25-

OSL Coffee Fellowship

May 4- Katie Marquis & Sam Hedlund
May 11- Carrie Delisle
May 18- Pahlens

happy
mother's day!

Melo Custodians: April 27-May 4 Austin Owens **May 11-18** Blake Owens **May 25-June 1** Marie Owens

OSL Council April 21th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Members present: Betty DuBore, Brittney Palm, Donna Miller, Dustin Marquis, Katie Benson, Wanda Gubrud, Pastor Amber Kalina. Absent: Wayne Torgerson. Also attending: Amanda Liebersbach.

The meeting was called to order by President Katie Benson at 7:01 pm. Pastor Amber opened with devotions, reading from Matthew. We shared about how we have seen signs of resurrection, growth and renewal in our lives and surroundings.

Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes: Betty moved to approve the agenda and minutes; Donna seconded; motion passed.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: Amanda reported that the Raymond James investment is still to be moved to the Money Market account and could take awhile yet. The balance of the ArrowLift bill has been paid, as well as expenses for the Backpack program and FMSC contribution. CD #1 matures on May 20 and she will bring options on renewal next month. Brittney moved to approve the Treasurer's report; Dustin seconded; motion carried.

Worship & Evangelism: Special Holy week services went well. Choir sang on Easter and at the Apr 9 Lenten service, and Bell Choir played on Mar 30. Serving on altar guild: May – Katie Jo; June, July, Aug – Joan & Bev C. A sign-up sheet to list favorite hymns is on the narthex table. Several lilies were shared for the Easter service and beautifully decorated the sanctuary. There are special services coming up in May for First Communion, Mother's Day and Senior Recognition.

Education & Youth: Remaining Sunday school teaching schedule is set, wrapping up with Parent's day on May 11. Children will purchase items for the food shelf with offering collected throughout the year. The program, pancake breakfast and egg hunt on Palm Sunday went very well. First Communion for 5th graders is on May 4, and Senior Recognition Sunday is May 18. Nearly 40 of our youth and adults participated in the Feed My Starving Children event in April, and (along with other volunteers) packaged enough food for 197 children for a year. Scholarships will be awarded May 18. A bonfire for youth grades 6-12 is planned for June 5.

Property & Mgmt/Tech: Carpet for narthex/SS wing/offices will be installed soon. A wheelchair lift service contract was signed with ArrowLift. Work has begun on the Fire protection system. A painting was relocated and hooks were installed for the banners to be hung in the sanctuary.

Stewardship/Outreach: Committee is planning a community event at the Rec Center on May 4 with family activities, music and food. Materials are provided through the Jordan Project.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Amber reported that the Backpack program has received some contributions. Jim Myrfield has suggested the possibility of an offering to be taken to benefit the program at the Christian concert at the MC Fair. Final distributions will be made in May. In Sept, OSL and Melo will individually participate in the Rural Revival program. Pastor Amber presided over Holy week services and two funerals. She did 12 homebound/hospital visits. She completed a Lenten study on Luther's *Freedom of a Christian* and concluded participation in community Lenten services. She is teaching First Communion classes for 5th graders, and joined with the youth and adults at the Feed My Starving Children event. She will attend continuing education Apr 30 – May 3 (Bridge project) and May 12-13 (Jordan project). Pastor Amber will continue to look for opportunities for us to assist other service organizations in serving the community.

Betty moved to approve the committee reports; Brittney seconded; motion passed.

Ongoing Business

+Wedding Coordinator Position: A job description was provided by Carol Anderson. Katie spoke to five people about the position but none were interested. She will approach a few more people. This has been announced in church and listed in the bulletin and a notice will be included in the newsletter.

+Sanctuary Curtain: Discussion was held on moving forward with plans to replace the altar curtain, and Pastor Amber shared some new ideas she received for designing the sanctuary space. Brittney moved to place an order for a new curtain; Dustin seconded; motion passed.

New Business

+Council Goals: Goals chosen for the coming year are 1) Encourage and activate congregation members, focusing on their gifts and interests (i.e. leadership roles, participation in worship/music, teaching Sunday School, serving on Council, taking on duties of wedding or funeral coordinator, etc.) and 2) Sharing God's gifts by finding avenues to support and serve local initiatives. These goals will be explored further at the next meeting.

+Lawn Mowing: Betty moved to hire the Clarks for church mowing and the Craiks for parsonage mowing at a fee of \$65/time; Brittney seconded; motion passed.

+Shepherd's Staff Updates: Updates and backups for the church membership software program haven't been done since 2022. If we wish to do so the cost will be around \$800. Josh will look into this and advise. Council agreed this is needed. We will ask Shelly to get info about another company that provides similar software.

+Church Mutual Insurance: A letter was received detailing an exclusion being adopted by Church Mutual regarding harmful substance exposure claims. If we don't concur with the policy we could cancel; the council agreed to accept the exclusion and continue our policy.

+Jordan Project Community Event: The committee will be sponsoring a Community Spring Festival event on May 4 at the Warren Rec Center. There will be no admission charge, but an opportunity will be given to donate towards the North Star Manor fundraiser for a new van. Wanda moved that OSL cover any remaining expenses for the event so that any contributions can go to N Star Manor; Dustin seconded; motion passed. Brittney moved to give \$2000 from the 'Other Mission' budget line item to N Star Manor van fund; Dustin seconded; motion passed. Volunteers are being sought to help out with games and food at the event.

+Paul Oman Visit: A pastor and artist, Paul Oman, will be at Zion Lutheran in TRF on Sept 28 and would be available for a performance on that evening at OSL. He paints a large canvas illustrating and relating a Bible story, to be displayed somewhere in the church, possibly the fellowship hall. Betty moved to engage Paul Oman on the evening of Sept 28 at a cost of \$3400; Donna seconded; motion passed. We can open this event to the community if we wish.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Brittney moved to adjourn; Donna seconded; motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm. Next meeting: May 19, 2025, at 7 pm. Respectfully submitted, Wanda Gubrud

March 2025 Treasurer's Report

General Account

Receipts

General Offering	\$ 10,775.11
Endowment Fund	\$ 40.00
Project 2000/Building Fund	\$ 260.00
Missions	\$ 20.00
Youth Group	\$ 100.00
Utilities	\$ 300.00
Total Income	\$ 11,495.11

Expenses

Other Missions	\$ 1,000.00
Backpack Mission	\$ 4,374.96
Salaries/Pension/FICA	\$ 11,796.33
Utilities/Phone/Internet	\$ 2,138.59
Pastors Mileage	\$ 106.40
Pr. Continuing Ed	\$ 60.00
Worship Supplies	\$ 438.71
Pulpit Supply	\$ 279.88
Staff Development	\$ 186.16
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 67.28
Office Repair/Maint	\$ 580.49
Church Repair/Maint	\$ 20,553.32
Confirmation	\$ 20.97
Custodial Supplies	\$ 21.99
Bank Service Chg	\$ 8.50
Total Expenses	\$ 41,633.58

Net Ordinary Income **\$ -30,138.47**

Other Expense (donations restricted) **-14,656.00**

Net Income **\$ -44,794.47**

OSL Accounts

Project 2000/Bldg Fund	\$ 95,846.24
Mission Fund	\$ 5,890.49
Memorial Fund	\$ 22,676.28
General Fund	\$ 409,138.90
Bremer MM Fund	\$ 8,421.08
OSL Bell Ringers	\$ 711.22
OSL Servant Group	\$ 9,196.75
Bremer CD	\$ 254,429.87
Bremer CD 2	\$ 107,432.29
Raymond James	\$ 82,892.35
Total	\$ 996,635.47



Jeans for a Cause 

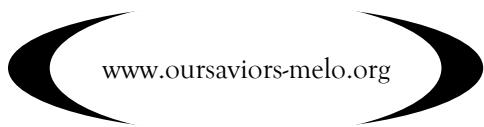
Employees donate to wear jeans on Fridays. American Federal matches the donations and the funds are given to local causes.

We heard about your backpack meal program & wanted to help out! Thanks for showing love and care for the kids in our community!

Julie Nowaski
THANK YOU FROM OSL FOR
YOUR DONATION!

OUR SAVIOR'S & MELO
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

220 W JOHNSON AVE
WARREN MN 56762



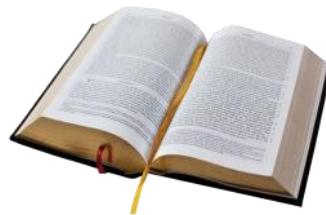
Lessons for May 2025

May 4-First Communion

Psalm 9:1-2, 9-14
Acts 6: 1-7
Luke 9:10-17

May 18-Graduate Sunday

Psalm 119:33-40
Acts 15:1-18
Luke 2:25-32



May 11-Mother's Day

Psalm 51:1-2, 6-12
Acts 8:26-39
Luke 24:44-49

May 25

Psalm 25:1-10
Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21
Luke 18:9-14

